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ology revised to date is abandoned for the present, while a new work on the Embryology of the Vertebrates, by Dr. C. S. Minot will appear at an early date.—J. S. KINGSLEY.

Stanislas Meunier's<sup>1</sup> "**Les Methodes de Synthèse eu Minéralogie**" is a monumental work worthy alike of the author who wrote it and of the subject of which it treats. Nearly all books on the artificial production of minerals that have heretofore appeared have been simply lists of products obtained in the laboratory, classified under the titles of the natural products with which they are identical. In the present volume a notable improvement has been made in the method of presenting that most fascinating of all mineralogical problems—the manufacture of minerals and the bearing of the processes involved therein upon the great geological questions relating to metamorphism, the production of mineral veins and the formation of ores. Instead of briefly mentioning the different methods by which the several minerals have been obtained, the author discusses the methods themselves, and illustrates them by citing the many products which each yields. He then points out the manner in which the processes throw light on the origin of mineral names in the earth's crust, and shows the relations existing between them. The study of chemical geology must receive a new impetus if the volume before us is made of as much use as it deserves to be. Geologists will thank the author for the suggestive hints that are so abundant throughout his book; mineralogists will welcome the appearance of a volume that so clearly describes the processes by which so many interesting minerals have been manufactured; chemists, if they will only think so, may find given in the treatise many reactions that will help to clear up the difficult problem of the constitution of inorganic compounds, and so will join with the mineralogists and the geologists in according the work a hearty reception.

The historical method of development of the subject is followed in most instances. After classifying the methods that have been employed by the many workers in this field, Meunier begins by giving a very detailed account of the different processes as they were first used, and then mentions their modifications, in each case referring briefly, or at length, as occasion demands, to the minerals yielded by each. Before taking up the subject proper of the work, the author describes the conditions under which minerals are being formed at

<sup>1</sup>Paris, Baudry et Cie, 1891, pp. xii and 359.

present in various portions of the earth, and follows these with an account of the accidental syntheses that have been reported, such as those resulting during the burning of coal under ground, or those produced by action of the moisture of the soil upon coins buried in it, etc. He then comes to the subject proper of the book—an account of the ‘rational syntheses’ that have been made. He gives an account of all the minerals formed by dry fusion, with or without the intervention of a ‘mineralizer,’ describes the wet methods that have yielded products identical with minerals, and discusses the mixed processes that have given similar results. The classification of methods is simple and at the same time satisfactory. So far as the reviewer is able to judge, nearly all mineral syntheses that have ever been made are at least referred to in Meunier’s book.—W. S. BAYLEY.

**The Worms of Bronn’s Thier-Reichs.**—This volume was commenced by A. Pagenstecher who wrote “Lieferungen 1–6” and was then obliged to give up further work on account of ill-health. Prof. Max Braun<sup>8</sup> of Königsburg (i, Pr.), Germany has undertaken the task of completing the treatise and up to date has issued Lief. 7–16.

Lief. 1–7 are given up to a historical introduction (261 p.), while the remainder of the work which has thus far appeared is occupied with a discussion of the Mionelminthes and Monogenea.

The system thus far adopted is:

MIONELMINTHES: I. Rhombozoa, 1. ord. Heterocyemida (genera *Conocyema*, *Microcyema*), 2. ord. *Dicyemida* (genera *Dicyema*, *Dicyemennaea*). II. Orthonectida (g. *Rhopalura*). *Trichoplax*.

PLATHELMINTHES: I. Trematodes, 1. Monogenea; families: Temnocephaleæ, 1 genus; Tristomeæ, 3 sub-families with 14 genera; Polystomeæ, 4 sub-families with 18 genera. (It will be noticed that Braun does not use the ending *idæ* determined upon by the International Congress as the ending of the family name).

The work is well written, finely illustrated and contains a very full bibliography with short reviews of every paper. This book will be the most complete treatise in existence on the group Vermes, and is indispensable to those who wish to work in that subject. The Reviewer urges all Americans who publish on the group, to aid Prof. Braun in the rest of his work by forwarding to him reprints of all the papers they publish in this line.

The monograph costs 1 mark 50 pro Lieferung, and is published by C. P. Winter, Leipzig and Heidelberg.—C. W. STILES.

<sup>8</sup>Braun’s Klassen und Ordnungen des Thier-Reichs: Bd. iv. Vermes.